

ardently wished for,—a son of his own, an inheritor of his name, his power, and his throne. I must take this opportunity of stating that the malevolent and infamous rumors spread abroad respecting the birth of the King[^] of Rome were wholly without foundation. My friend (Wvisart, who did not for a single instant leave Maria Louisa during her long and painful labor, removed from my mind every doubt, on the subject. It is as true that the young Prince, for whom the Emperor of Austria stood sponsor at the font, was the son of Napoleon and the Archduchess Maria Louisa as it is false that Bonaparte was the father of the first child of Hoi-tense. The birth of the son of Napoleon was hailed with general enthusiasm.¹ The Emperor was at the height of his power from the period of the birth of his son until the reverse he experienced after the battle of the Moskowa. The Empire, including the States possessed by the Imperial family, contained nearly 57,000,000 of inhabitants; but the period was fast approaching when this power, unparalleled in modern times, was to collapse under its own weight.

¹ The reader will find 8om« very interesting notice of this great event and the result which followed, in tin* *Mémtrmt/tit*/titn/lit-murf, lhrttnt&tt*, vol. iii. p. y71. It appears from Mademoiselle AvrHlhm** Memoirs that Napoleon was the* Brst to umiounee to Josephinu th« hfrthi »»f hittHnu. "liHiu;hcrloumRtrpees," wild inadtimriselh*, ** nil that |«HWM in tin¹ hreust of a wounm is inuxplieahle: tin¹ 1C in press teHtih-d the grratiHt and the m«*st -sincere joy at an ovont which wiu* rouishlorrd by aliuwil uil Kr^nntitMMi an an iuuunitie happinoKK for tht[^] Kmpiro, . . » Hhe, MhovMMi »»%. with a Hurt of jmdt*, the letter the* Kmporor had written h«»r with h!» »»wn hriud, and hi which lie added, after having wild, *My dimr Joh[^]ithitii, I havi*, a mm, * tlwmi other words, * I am at thi Hununit »»f my liappin[^] HH*,
" * Y<>! naid tlw Knipn*HH *!fH4nphht(« l»» m« with ynlhlo emotion, though without, any sign of jualoowy or it! humor, * VOH! hi* mtmt, 1«* v<>ry happy! and then, after drying: HWW* teira that i*H<>*ii)* «I hi'r, nh« coittinuw, "ami I alHo— I too ought to IMS v«ry happy at thi» happennHMof lin» Km[Mrc>r *•. happy to w«* tlic fulfilment of th<> wi<>h<is of all Kran.ru— I now gather tlw fruits of my painful MactrificMi, since* th«y havu Msurtni thi prcwprity »»f FriüKlii,
The little King of Home, Napoiwm FniticiiH littiiipiirti*, wai born on the 20th of March, 1811. — *Editor of mm*